



Maryland Higher Education Commission

Presentation to the Senate Budget and Taxation Subcommittee
on Education, Business, and Administration

February 7, 2005

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
839 Bestgate Rd. • Suite 400 • Annapolis, MD 21401-3013

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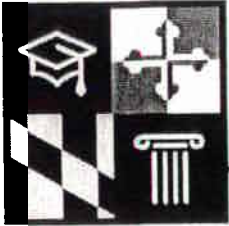


2004 Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education



Planning Process

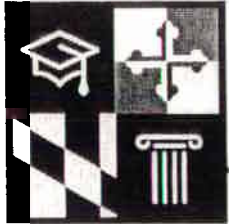
- In April 2004, a State Planning Committee was appointed by the Governor to advise the Commission in the development of the plan.
- The Committee included representatives from all segments of postsecondary education, legislators, cabinet officers, members of the business community, community leaders, and others.
- The Committee was organized into four subcommittees: (1) A Changing and Growing Student Population; (2) Providing High-Quality, Affordable Postsecondary Education; (3) Meeting Maryland's Economic and Workforce Needs; and (4) Ensuring Maryland's Commitment to Diversity.
- The Commission adopted the Report of the State Plan Committee as the 2004 Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education on December 8, 2004.



The Environment for Planning

Trends impacting future needs for postsecondary education:

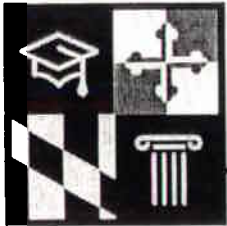
- Demographic Shifts
- Funding Challenges
- Affordability Issues
- Workforce Changes
- Technological Developments
- Teacher Staffing Concerns



Guiding Principles for Planning

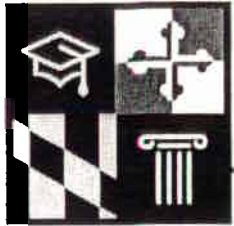
All Maryland residents who can benefit from postsecondary education and desire to attend a college, or private career school should have a place in postsecondary education and it should be affordable.

The Maryland Constitution specifically identifies that the State provide a thorough and efficient public school system. Given today's economy and Maryland's need for a highly trained workforce, some level of postsecondary education should be considered critical for an educated workforce, for a vibrant economy, and to provide Maryland citizens with an opportunity for a full and well-developed life. The public school system should ensure that preK-12 public education is adequate to prepare students for postsecondary education and that all sectors are well coordinated to make postsecondary education a key and integral component of public education for Maryland citizens.



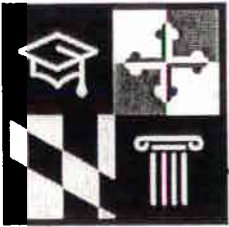
Model for Postsecondary Education

- To fulfill the basic responsibilities outlined in the Guiding Principles, a postsecondary education model should be developed to guide decisions.
- The model should link tuition policy, State support to institutions, and State and institutional financial aid to address such issues as student access and the particular needs of the State.
- The public debate segment of the process will include but not be limited to consideration of:
 - Adequate access;
 - Appropriate balance between the student share and the State share of the cost of higher education ; and
 - Economic and civic benefits from having an educated population.
- The model should be the foundation for a coordinated 10-year growth plan for postsecondary education.



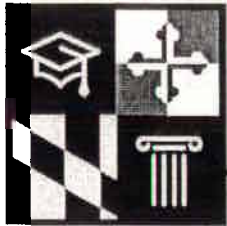
Quality and Effectiveness

- Goal 1: Maintain and strengthen a preeminent statewide array of postsecondary education institutions recognized nationally for academic excellence and effectiveness in fulfilling the educational needs of students, the State, and the nation.
 - Reaffirm the use of funding guidelines for public 4-years and fund community colleges and independents at legislated levels.
 - Continue to provide matching funds to promote donations from the private sector.
 - Provide funds for faculty development in using technology.
 - Review State policies to ensure cost effective operations.



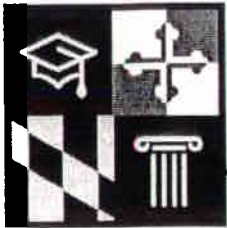
Access and Affordability

- Goal 2: Achieve a system of postsecondary education that promotes accessibility and affordability for all Marylanders.
 - Develop a coordinated statewide 10-year growth plan for all of postsecondary education based on sound educational principles.
 - Review and update the capital improvement planning process.
 - Develop a consistent State policy on regional higher education centers.
 - Propose and implement a comprehensive digital education strategy.
 - Revise State need-based aid programs to promote access and accommodate students from a variety of circumstances.
 - Target more institutional financial aid to need-based programs.



Diversity

- Goal 3: Ensure equal educational opportunity for Maryland's diverse citizenry.
 - Take actions to enhance cultural competency by making campuses more welcoming to students of all backgrounds.
 - Identify enhancement funds needed to ensure that HBIs are comparable and competitive with HWIs in programs and infrastructure.
 - Continue annual evaluations of the State's progress in meeting its commitments to the U.S. Office for Civil Rights.
 - Form an inter-segmental advising group to promote policies and practices for ensuring the academic success of all students.
 - Implement aggressive recruitment programs to attract African American and other under-represented groups to advanced degree programs.



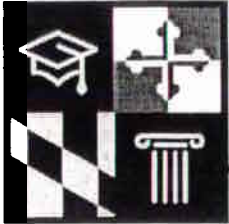
A Student-Centered Learning System

- Goal 4: Strengthen and expand teacher preparation programs and support student-centered preK-16 education to promote student success at all levels.
 - Increase the capacity of Maryland's colleges and universities to produce teachers, especially in critical shortage areas and with regard to males and minorities.
 - Develop wide-ranging master's programs for in-service teachers.
 - Reduce the time-to-degree at public colleges and universities.
 - Support the recommendations of the preK-16 Maryland Partnership.
 - Ensure easy transfer of students and credits from community colleges to four-year institutions.
 - Initiate high school/college partnerships to provide a successful transition for minority students from high school to college.



Economic Growth and Vitality

- Goal 5: Promote economic growth and vitality through the advancement of research and the development of a highly qualified workforce.
 - Promote policies that enhance academic research and development and eliminate barriers not found in competing states.
 - Provide improved data needed to respond to shifting workforce needs.
 - Increase the supply of graduates in identified high demand fields and workforce shortage areas.
 - Promote, facilitate and coordinate the participation of postsecondary education institutions in Maryland's workforce development initiatives, including Maryland Business Works (MBW), the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), and Partnerships for Workforce Quality (PWQ).
 - Establish and education committee of GWIB to promote and maximize employer participation in education, research and workforce development.



Next Steps

- The 2004 Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education has numerous action recommendations, both short-term and long-term.
- The Commission will work with the segments of postsecondary education to prioritize the recommendations and begin implementation.